

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of screening for a candidate of a suppressor gene of a neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system Alzheimer's Disease, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) expressing in a population of cells a library of nucleic acids obtained from or synthesized from nucleic acids expressed in a tissue of a ~~nerve or~~ brain of an organism suffering from ~~the neurodegenerative disorder of a cranial nervous system~~ Alzheimer's Disease, wherein said tissue is obtained from an area of the brain showing cell death as a pathological feature of ~~the disorder~~ Alzheimer's Disease, and wherein said tissue comprises surviving or normal cells;

(b) detecting a suppressive effect on ~~the disorder~~ Alzheimer's Disease due to the expression of a nucleic acid of the library; and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect;

thereby identifying a candidate of a suppressor gene of the disorder Alzheimer's Disease.

3. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a disorder suppressor polypeptide or a disorder suppressor gene encoding said polypeptide, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(a) administering to a cell (i) a polypeptide derived from a tissue of an organism suffering from a disorder that accompanies cell death, or (ii) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid derived from said tissue, wherein said tissue is derived from an area affected by the disorder or from the vicinity of the affected area,

(b) detecting a suppressive effect on the disorder due to the expression of the nucleic acid, and,

(c) selecting the nucleic acid having the suppressive effect.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, comprising the step of inducing ~~the cell death associated with said disorder before~~, during or after step (a), and wherein the suppressive effect on Alzheimer's disease ~~the disorder~~ in step (b) is a suppression of cell death.

5-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of nucleic acids that cause the suppressive effect are identified, further comprising:

(d) cross-hybridizing the nucleic acids to each other to identify non-redundant groups.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, further comprising, prior to step (a),

(i) obtaining the nucleic acids expressed in the tissue of the organism suffering from [the disorder] Alzheimer's disease; and

(ii) constructing the library of nucleic acids therefrom.

21. (Canceled)

22. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein said organ area is occipital cortex.